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SUDBURY URBAN DISTRICT

OR

BOROUGH OF SUDBURY

IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF WEST SUFFOLK

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for 1949

To the Mayor and Members of the Council :—

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report on behalf of Dr. Mayes who resigned in December, 1949.

The Clerk of the Council, the Borough Surveyor and the Sanitary Inspector have been most kind in assisting me in the preparation of the Report and to them and to the Clerical Staff of the Municipal offices I wish to express my appreciation.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. P. BARCLAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1950.

SECTION A

1.—General Statistics

Population (Registrar General's Estimate) 6890
Number of inhabited Houses 2482
Sum represented by a penny rate £139 19s. 5d.

Area 1925 acres
Rateable Value £35,618

2.—Extracts of Vital Statistics for the Year

LIVE BIRTHS	TOTAL	M	F
Legitimate	86	46	40
Illegitimate	7	1	6
Total ..	93	47	46

STILL BIRTHS			
Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total ..	3	1	2

Live Birth Rate per 1,000, estimated population	13.5
England and Wales	16.7
Still Birth Rate per 1.000 population	0.57
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population, England and Wales	0.39

DEATHS registered in 1949 — Death Rate (crude) 16.0
Death Rate of England and Wales 11.7

TOTAL 113 Male 54 Female 59

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of child-birth	
(a) from sepsis	0
(b) other causes	0
Death of Infants under one year Legitimate	2
Illegitimate	0
Cause of death of Infants under one year	
(a) Congenital Abnormalities	1
(b) Gastro-Enteritis	1
Death Rate of Infants under one year	
All Infants per 1,000 live births	21.1
England and Wales per 1,000 live births	32
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	3	8	11
Deaths from Heart Diseases	24	22	46
Deaths from Bronchitis	2	3	5
Deaths from Pneumonia	4	0	4
Deaths from Nephritis	3	0	3

SECTION B

A. WATERWORKS

The waterworks undertaking of the Sudbury Corporation maintained an adequate supply of water throughout the Borough during the year. Regular bacteriological reports were obtained, the results in all cases showed the water to be highly satisfactory for drinking purposes. As an additional safeguard the water is chlorinated at the source before being delivered to the service reservoirs and distribution mains. The total quantity of water supplied to consumers during the year was approximately 88 million gallons which is equivalent to about 34 gallons per head per day for all purposes including industry.

B. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year no major changes were made in the Sewage Disposal system. It is unfortunate that non-delivery of the Rotary Distributors for the filter-beds delayed the reconditioning plans for the works. It is hoped that this will progress during 1950 .

The effluent from the works was comparatively satisfactory throughout the year.

SECTION C

1. PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer (part time)
One Sanitary Inspector, Member of Sanitary Institute

2. AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The West Suffolk County Council are responsible for the ambulance service which is carried on through the agency of the West Suffolk Branch of the British Red Cross Society.

3. NURSING IN THE HOME

The West Suffolk County Council's Home nursing and midwifery service supply two District Nurses.

4. INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

The West Suffolk County Council provide one centre in the town.

5. HOSPITALS

The following is a tabulated statement of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector during 1949 :—

Inspections

Total number of inspections	3600
Total number of re-inspections	1870
Total number of nuisances found	72
Total number of nuisances abated	72
Total number of informal notices	402
Total number of statutory notices	10
Total number of informal notices complied with	398
Total number of informal notices outstanding	4

Sanitary Works and Improvements

Dilapidated dustbins	31
Choked drains	36
Choked and defective eave spouts	4
Defective flushing apparatus	3
Keeping of animals in unsanitary condition	8
Defective construction of drains	5
Dirty condition of dwellinghouses	5
Defective w. c. basins	6
Defective paving of yards	4
Defective fireplaces	11
Choked and defective rain water pipes	8
Dirty condition of urinals, water closets, etc.	12
Accumulation of rubbish	8
Defective roofs	8
Dirty condition of yards	20
Defective floors	15
Defective sinks	8
Choked and defective waste pipes	6
Broken plasterwork	16
Premises in need of limewashing	17
Offensive smells	12
Defective windows	6
Dampness of dwellinghouses	12
Dangerous structures	3
Miscellaneous defective walls and structures	80

Temporary Dwellings

Number of inspections	4

Factories and Workshops

Number of inspections of factories	152
Number of nuisances found	16
Number of nuisances abated	16
Number of complaints from H. M. Inspector (dealt with)	1

Bakehouses

Number of bakehouses on register	15
Number of inspections	375
Number of nuisances discovered and dealt with	36

Cowsheds

Number of cowkeepers within the Borough	
Number of cowsheds within the Borough	
Number of inspections	
Number of notices dealt with	

Dairies and Milkshops

Number on Register	9
Number registered during year	nil.
Number of inspections	225
Number of notices dealt with	20

Premises Registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1936.

Premises used for the storage of, or manufacture of, ice cream intended for sale :—

NO. ON REGISTER	NO. OF INSPECTIONS	NUISANCES FOUND	NUISANCES DEALT WITH
13	56	3	3

Premises used for the manufacture of preserved foods for sale :—

NO. ON REGISTER	NO. OF INSPECTIONS	NUISANCES FOUND	NUISANCES DEALT WITH
19	228	16	16

HOUSING

During the year the Housing Sub-Committee inspected 5 areas of houses and action was taken according to their recommendations.

The following major housing improvements were carried out as a result of notices, during the year :–

Houses provided with separate internal water supply	105
Houses provided with sinks, complete with necessary drainage	104
New water closets provided (complete)	26
Earth closets abolished and replaced by water closet	1
Drainage system installed to existing house in lieu of soakage	1
Ventilation provided to pantries	30
Handrails fitted to stairs	28
Concrete paths provided to premises	51
Lighting to stairs	7
Undertakings not to re-let	1
Statutory overcrowding abated (cases)	3

The position as regards provision of w.c.'s is as follows :—

There are 96 houses sharing 1 w.c. between 2 houses, 42 houses sharing one w.c. between 3 houses, one case of 4 houses sharing one w.c., and 2 cases of 5 houses sharing one w.c.

The two latter categories are however houses of the type built for old age pensioners and occupied usually by one person only.

The worst cases of inadequate water closet accommodation have already been dealt with and adequate accommodation provided.

There are still a considerable number of houses without their own sink and water supply.

Minor repairs and replacements are shewn under the heading :—

SANITARY WORKS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

SAMPLING

Periodic sampling was carried out of milk, ice cream and other foods for analysis by the Public Health Laboratory. In cases where the result was unsatisfactory, appropriate steps were taken to improve the supply.

Sources of drinking water, and water used in connection with the preparation of food in the Borough were sampled and tested periodically. In one case drinking water from a well was unsatisfactory and the house was accordingly provided with a mains supply.

The Konevale Factory, Ballingdon, continue to use mains water only and have discontinued use of their shallow well.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

Disinfections for infectious disease	6
Disinfestations (all types of insect pests)	59

Two houses were found to be filthy and verminous and treated accordingly.

Advice was given where required and destruction of bedding and other infected articles arranged.

ANTI RODENT

Propaganda consisted of :—

Personal visits, advice on rat proofing, removal of food and rat harbourage.

Treatments :—

Treatments to Council properties	14
Treatments to business premises	56
Treatments to private dwellinghouses	185
Sewer Treatments (complete)	2
Sewer test baiting treatments	1

There is no doubt that occupiers of business premises appreciate this service. The Free Treatment scheme has greatly facilitated the work of rodent destruction in private houses.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

131 condemnation certificates were issued in respect of meat and other foods, during the year.

COUNCIL'S HOUSING ESTATES

Many investigations relative to applications for Council houses were carried out.

A considerable number of visits were made to Council houses as a result of requests, and to improve the standard of cleanliness and tidiness of such houses.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

Good progress was made during the year in securing clean storage of foodstuffs, and proper washing and sanitary accommodation for staffs. All cafes and food shops were periodically visited.

A. H. KERRIDGE,
Sanitary and Housing Inspector

SECTION D

Infectious Diseases

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED

Disease	Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	2
Whooping Cough	50
Measles	123
Pneumonia	15
Erysipelas	3
Infective Jaundice	1
Malaria	2

AGE OF INCIDENCE

Disease	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—
Scarlet Fever	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	6	16	25	1	—	—
Measles	4	28	40	46	4	—	1
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	14

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
No. on Register at beginning of year	9	10	4	2	25
Notification of new cases during year	3	2	—	—	5
Removed from Register during year	2	2	—	—	4
Deaths during year	1	2	—	—	3
No. on Register at end of year	10	10	4	2	26

FACTORY ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1.–INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c line No (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	28	140	5	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	55	220	4	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority† (excluding outworker's premises)	3	10	60	1	—	3
Total		93	420	10	—	

FACTORY ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

2–CASES IN WHICH **DEFECTS** WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more " cases ")

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (3)	Remedied (4)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	22	22
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	1	1
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)			
(*a*) insufficient	9	1	1
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	10	2	2
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	3	3
TOTAL	60	29	29

† *i.e.* Electrical Stations (Section 103(1)), Institutions. (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

G. P. BARCLAY,

Medical Officer of Health

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